



K4C 2014 SkillsUSA KY TeamWorks Event



Sponsored by:

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation

Prizes donated by: K4C

Practice supplies for winning secondary team donated by: NILCO

Fran Dundon recognizes Lowe's representatives during Opening Ceremony



Mike Gampper
Store Manager
Lowe's #0492, Frankfort, KY:



"SkillsUSA is a phenomenal program focused on the education of our future. On behalf of Lowe's, it is an honor to contribute to the next generation."

Over the past several years, SkillsUSA Kentucky TeamWorks competitors have been beneficiaries of the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation's grant for this event. We thank Lowe's for making TeamWorks possible and hope grant opportunities continue well into the future. The contest is much too large in scope and too expensive to fund without the aid of a grant. Great news – this year, three separate Lowe's stores participated in TeamWorks and allowed their employees to serve as judges. TeamWorks in Kentucky jumped to five teams this year – including one postsecondary and four secondary teams. The support of K4C was also instrumental – top of the line prizes were awarded to all medalists – prizes they will be able to use in their careers. And, NILCO, a lumber company and new sponsor, provided the first place secondary team with extra lumber to practice for the national event.



Peter Mular
Tools Department Manager
Lowe's #1518, Louisville, KY:

"I am proud to work for a company like Lowe's. A company that knows that our children are our future and is willing to invest time, resources and money into preparing our kids to be the workforce of tomorrow. SkillsUSA is a fantastic program that ensures our kids have the experience and training needed to meet real world job expectations. I can't think of a better investment for our children than SkillsUSA."



Shaw:

***“I’m proud of SkillsUSA and Lowe’s involvement in the sponsorship of the TeamWorks competition at the state and national levels. I’m grateful to Lowe’s for allowing me the time to be part of the state contest. I’ve been a participant for several years, yet I still look forward each spring to judging and advising the students. It allows me to give something back to the industry I’ve earned a living in most of my life.*”**

***“Not only do these participants gain job skills by reading a blueprint, deciding on a course of action with available resources and utilizing tools to accomplish something worthwhile, they also acquire life skills by trusting their training, allocating supplies to be efficient and depending on each other. This interdependence creates teamwork and is probably the most important attribute because it fosters cooperation among individuals. This work - study lends itself to a molding not only of great future employees, but also of great people.*”**

“This is the reason people come back year after year to volunteer and organizations give access of their resources to hold these competitions. It’s so young people will seize the opportunity to grow and prosper along with their communities.”

Editor’s note: This is the sixth consecutive year Dennis Shaw has been involved in TeamWorks. Thank you, Dennis..

Photo: SkillsUSA KY B & I director Fran Dundon presents Dennis Shaw with a SkillsUSA KY Power Partner plaque to honor Lowe’s #1923 and Shaw’s dedication of the TeamWorks competition.





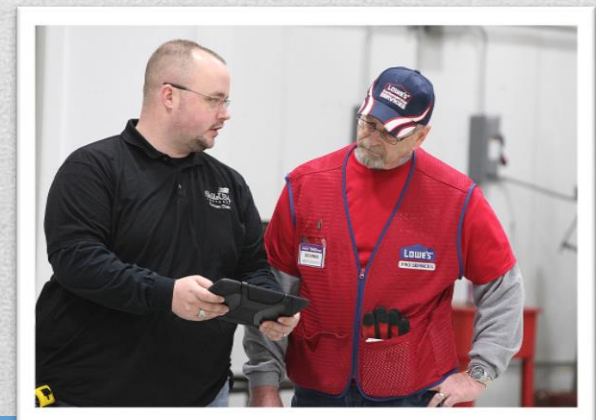
Judges (l to r): Dennis Shaw, Lowe's #1923; Bill Harris, Lowe's #0492; Irv Cline, KAMC; and Logan Hanes, TeamWorks chairman. Not present: Ed Hanes, owner, Hanes Building and Remodeling and Tim Kelly, retired professional carpenter.

Logan Hanes Territory Sales Manager Elkay Wood Products:

“TeamWorks is one of my favorite competitions and chairing the event is an honor because of my background. The project is never one that can be done by just one person or even two given the specified time. The entire team has to work together and do it well in order to prevail. Seeing not only the skill set, but also the passion for the trade that these students have gives me great hope for the future of our country.”

Bill Harris Pro Service Sales Specialist Lowe's #0492, Frankfort, KY:

“It was an honor and privilege to represent Lowe's Company at the SkillsUSA KY Teamwork's competition. The future of our industry is the support and continuing education of the youth of America.”



Above: Hanes and Shaw collaborate on TeamWorks competition.

K4C recognized for TeamWorks prizes, advisor prizes and travel scholarships during Opening Ceremony

Daren Thompson, K4C President:

“The Kentucky Construction Career Choice Council (K4C) was honored to once again be a sponsor of the SkillsUSA Kentucky State Skills Championship through prize donation, judging and travel scholarships because we believe in the worth of this competition. We also supported the Outstanding Advisor of the Year prizes because we believe advisors deserve recognition too.

“TeamWorks allows students to demonstrate how the different trades work together to complete a project. All of the trades in this competition are represented in our organization and this is the major reason we wanted to be a part of TeamWorks. We were pleased to see five teams competing this year – including postsecondary.

“This year’s winning secondary team – Campbell Co. ATC - did an excellent job. They obviously believe in this competition because this is the second year their school team won first place. Their work is a testament to how well the instructors are preparing the next generation for construction careers – and these are the individuals who will come into our businesses and industries. And, congratulations to the Elizabethtown CC team for their performance in the TeamWorks competition.

“K4C members understand the value of SkillsUSA and we wholeheartedly believe this student organization will help bridge the gap in the skilled trades shortage. We are glad Lowe’s underwrites the TeamWorks competition because it’s at the heart of the construction industry. And, our board feels it is important to support Lowe’s by purchasing our prizes from their store. In fact, many support Lowe’s because of this competition.

“Lowe’s and K4C received a lot of exposure during the SkillsUSA conference and it allowed us to provide more outreach to the next generation. We appreciate the efforts of Fran Dundon in creating a worthwhile pathway for our participation because SkillsUSA is both rewarding and beneficial for our members.”



K4C board members, (l to r): Ray Genet, Whayne Supply; Lora Knight, HBAK; Robby Arrasmith, Messer Construction Co.; and Daren Thompson, K4C president and MSD flood supervisor.

KY Tech-Campbell Co. ATC – 1st Place TeamWorks



Photo, back row (l to r): Daren Thompson, K4C President; Lora Knight, HBAK and K4C board member; Ray Genet, Whayne Supply and K4C board member; Robby Cashen, Messer Construction Co and K4C representative; and Bill Hoffeld, NILCO.

Front row, (l to r): Blake Doyle, Aaron Orth, Matt Fodor and Chris Reed.

Campbell Co. ATC – 1st Place Winning Team



David Lawson
Carpentry Instructor, KY Tech-Campbell County ATC:



"Through the generosity of private businesses willing to donate material, supplies, and prizes is the outstanding opportunity for high school students to compete in the TeamWorks event. We thank Lowe's for sponsoring the grant to make this competition possible. Our SkillsUSA members understand the value of Lowe's and how their donation directly affects TeamWorks. The outstanding prizes and travel scholarships for national conference donated by K4C have once again made an outstanding impact on the students. And, imagine our surprise at finding out NILCO donated extra supplies for our winning team to practice with for the national conference. It just gets better every year and we appreciate the levels of support our students and schools receive because of this competition."

"This year, there were employees from three separate Lowe's stores involved in judging the TeamWorks contest. We saw Lowe's all over this competition. Logan Hanes, who serves as chairman of the contest also works in industry and was a former SkillsUSA KY state officer and Lowe's employee. Because everyone brought a great deal of experience to the contest, the competition has risen to a higher level and our students are the beneficiaries."

"Having students work together to plan a strategy and complete a project is what technical instructors try to teach during the school year. No one builds a house alone; the students must be able to communicate and work cooperatively together. There are great teams at the state level. The students who have skills, can communicate, and work together to reach a common goal become the winners of the TeamWorks contest. This year, our team was able to accomplish all of these goals. We are proud of how they represented our school and what they have learned in the classroom."



“The faculty and staff at KY Tech Campbell County ATC are very proud of our TeamWorks team and their accomplishments. Having two members from last year’s team competing in their respective trade programs (carpentry/masonry), this garroup had some big shoes to fill. They stepped up their game by winning the TeamWorks competition and earning the honor of representing Kentucky in Kansas City. They are very excited and working very hd to become one of the top national teams.”

“Thank you to Lowe’s for their sponsorship of this contest. We believe it is one of the best competitions offered. We thank Daren Thompson and K4C for their continued support of TeamWorks. Not only are the prizes very rewarding, but the travel scholarships are necessary in getting these young men to Kansas City. We also thank the KY SkillsUSA-VICA Development Foundation for support of our team. It is an invaluable gesture that will allow these future tradesmen an opportunity to represent Kentucky at nationals. Without this support, it would be impossible to send all of our students.”



***Bill Hoffeld, Outside Sales Representative
NILCO:***

“I’m proud to say that my involvement with SkillsUSA KY was one of the most life changing events in my career. NILCO got involved for one very obvious reason. We do not have enough young people trained to move into the businesses that support the construction segment. The funnel is empty and companies that thrive on this segment need skilled individuals to take the place of our aging industry.”

“NILCO recognizes that this national organization needs support from the very people that will hire employees to fill this funnel. Our donation to Carpentry and TeamWorks was one way to support these dedicated high school individuals.”

“Thank you for opening our eyes to this great organization.”

KY Tech-Pulaski Co. ATC - 2nd Place TeamWorks

Kellie Tarter, TeamWorks member:

“On behalf of the entire Pulaski Co. ATC TeamWorks team, we would like to thank the Lowe’s Foundation for sponsoring this event. We also want to thank K4C for the DeWALT oscillating tools and buckets given to us for our second place win at the Kentucky SkillsUSA competition held in Louisville, Kentucky. The tool will come in handy as we put our education into action. This tool can be used for everything from cutting out a door jam to putting the final touches on a project with the sander attachment. It is sure to be the envy of the job site. Thank you for your sponsorship.”

**Ron Hoff
Pulaski Co. ATC Carpentry Instructor:**

“I want to thank the wonderful sponsors of the TeamWorks competition. Thanks to K4C for the gifts donated for the competition and also for their contributions to the SkillsUSA program. Thanks to Lowe’s for the material and for funding the competition. It was great to see the projects were going to be put to use for our veterans.”



Photo, back row (l to r): Daren Thompson, K4C President; Lora Knight, HBAK and K4C board member; Ray Genet, Whayne Supply and K4C board member; Robby Cashen, Messer Construction Co. Front row, (l to r): Jacob Smith, Kellie Tarter, Brenton Clemons, and Dylan Pitman.

Pulaski Co. ATC – 2nd Place TeamWorks

KY Tech-Lake Cumberland ATC – 3rd Place TeamWorks



Back row: K4C members. Front row (l to r): Bradly Anderson, Brandon Kerr, Devin Shultz, and Cory Polston.

Brandon Kerr:

"I'm looking forward to coming back next year and being the crew leader. I learned a lot from participating this year, and hope to come back next year and win! K4C and Lowe's poured a lot of time and money into TeamWorks to make it a great competition. I think it is the best competition by far."

Cory Polston:

"TeamWorks is a great competition, and challenged us to think on our own using the skills we learned in class. I was surprised to see how much time and money the sponsors put into the competition."

**Larry Huckaby, Carpentry Instructor
Lake Cumberland ATC:**

"This was my sixth year entering a team in the TeamWorks competition. I want to thank Lowe's and K4C for sponsoring a wonderful competition again this year. And, we all thank the Carpenters Union for allowing us to hold the event at their facility."

"In my opinion, being involved in TeamWorks helps students develop the attributes needed to obtain a career in the construction industry - not only from the trade skills, but the leadership and teamwork it requires as well."

"We look forward to next year and can't wait to see what K4C and Lowes have in store for us!"

Devin Shultz:

"This was my first time as a TeamWorks member and I'm looking forward to coming back next year. The competition not only challenged me, but I developed leadership skills I will take into the real world. K4C and Lowe's were awesome and I really appreciate all they did to provide us with a great competition and prizes."

Bradly Anderson:

"I really enjoyed the Teamworks competition and the prizes were great! I come from a construction background and Teamworks incorporates a lot of the construction skills needed in real-life construction jobs."



Photo, back row (l to r): Daren Thompson, K4C President; Lora Knight, HBAK and K4C board member; Ray Genet, Whayne Supply and K4C board member; Robby Cashen, Messer Construction Co.; and Bill Hoffeld, NILCO. Front row (l to r): Casey Byrd and Lawrence Mooreman. Not pictured: Terry Hoyt and Edward Lyvers

Arthur Hendricks
SkillsUSA Regional Director
Elizabethtown CTC:

***“SkillsUSA has allowed our nontraditional students to showcase their abilities and leadership skills through state and national competitions. It speaks volumes to the dedication and hard work found within the SkillsUSA organization. Students have the chance to bring the classroom alive and showcase the craftsmanship of the technical trades.*”**

“We thank Lowe’s and K4C for their outstanding support of TeamWorks and SkillsUSA.”



1st Place Postsecondary Team: Elizabethtown Technical College

Fran Dundon, SkillsUSA KY Business & Industry Director:

“The Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation put financial support where students and teachers understand the importance of what a national sponsor can provide – on the front line. The sponsorship of TeamWorks provided an outstanding display of support for skilled trades – support that was successfully conveyed to the 963 registered SkillsUSA KY participants.

“As a result of the TeamWorks grant and our promotion of Lowe’s during the past three years at our SkillsUSA KY state conference, we believe Lowe’s (at least in Kentucky) should feel an impact – in Frankfort and two Louisville stores.

“Another outstanding contribution to TeamWorks is the K4C partnership. The entire competition has been enhanced because of additional industry judges and outstanding prizes. We have seen a big difference in the skill level of competitors because the bar has been raised. Both Lowe’s and K4C were given a standing ovation during the opening ceremony as representatives were recognized on stage with SkillsUSA KY ‘Power Partner’ plaques.

“There was another first at this year’s conference. NILCO, a family owned national industrial lumber company, provided a lumber supply donation to the winning secondary TeamWorks team so they would have enough product to practice for the national competition. This was an outstanding donation and we thank NILCO and Bill Hoffeld for becoming part of the SkillsUSA KY family.

“TeamWorks chairman Logan Hanes, along with judges Dennis Shaw, Bill Harris, Peter Mular, Ed Hanes, Tim Kelly and Irv Cline did a great job coordinating the TeamWorks event. Their expertise is needed and appreciated. Our K4C partners not only provided prizes (bought from Lowe’s), but their participation sent the message – we think this is important!

“Finally, we want to say thank you for what the Lowe’s Foundation has done to support TeamWorks for six years and for funding five ‘School’s In Need’ grants in Kentucky during the past two years. The difference is noticeable. I for one, will shop at Lowe’s because of the support given to SkillsUSA – and, this will be relayed to everyone I know.”



Story and layout by Fran Dundon – May 2014
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